

# THE AMERICAN JOURNAL OF HOMŒOPATHY.

*"The agitation of thought is the beginning of Truth."*

VOL. I.

New-York, Saturday, October 3, 1846.

NO. 12.

DRS. KIRBY AND SNOW, EDITORS.

**J. H. Tobitt, Printer,**

No. 9 Spruce-street, New-York.

This JOURNAL will be issued every two weeks, at One Dollar a year, in advance. City subscribers will be regularly served at their residences by sending their names to the Editors.

Subscriptions received and copies sold at Smith's Pharmacy, 592 Broadway; at Radde's, 322 Broadway.

Country subscribers can have the Journal sent to them by mail, on the above terms.

All communications must be addressed, (post paid) to the Editors, 311 or 736 Broadway.

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### HOMŒOPATHY IS PROGRESSIVE.

It cannot be expected that the world would become converted to Homœopathy at once;—it will take time;—it will require a patient perseverance on the part of the friends of this system to disseminate a knowledge of it.

There are formidable difficulties to encounter, which, for some time to come, will seem almost insurmountable. The very smallest of these is the misrepresentations of the openly avowed enemies of Homœopathy. This kind of opposition is of little importance, for whoever can be influenced by it, would be of but little use in this or any other cause. But there are those 'who have stolen a livery from the court of Heaven to serve the devil in.' These proclaim themselves Homœopaths; but their practice belies them. These pursue what is called a mixed practice: we would prefer to designate it, a confused practice, for it is neither Homœopathy, allopathy, nor 'Young Physic.' This class must be ranked among the opponents to Homœopathy. There is a property of Homœopathy which stamps it immutably true, which is, that a modification of it destroys it. Homœopathy stands up boldly, and says, '*Similia similibus curantur* is the law of cure,' and the dilution of drugs is essential to fit them to respond to this law. Ample experience of more than sixty years proves incontrovertibly that these two principles are in harmony with one another. And if kept together, they are competent to cure, speedily, safely, and pleasantly, all curable cases, which fact is now well established. Yet we deeply regret to be compelled to say, that there are those who think that Homœopathy is not adapted to all diseases or to some individual cases of disease: that these demand allopathic treatment. We will not charge insincerity on those who thus think, yet most certainly they are wanting in a suitable knowledge of the resources of Homœopathy. Besides they do not seem to be aware that if what they assert be true, Homœopathy is false. Prove that diseases have been cured by the pretended principle 'contraries cured by contraries,' and it will show our system to be foundationless. For this reason, there cannot be

two laws of cure, especially if directly opposite to each other. If *similia similibus curantur* be a law, and if it be a law for the cure of diseases, then in this regard it is universal, and no exception can be admitted. If it be a law, (and who doubts it?) then it can be relied upon in all conditions of sickness, and if the drug is fitted by a suitable and known mode of preparation to respond to this law, then the cure is certain. The evidence to establish this is ample, being found in the experience of thousands in almost every part of the world. Is there sophistry here? We do not perceive it. What then is the position of those in relation to Homœopathy, who declare that they meet with peculiar cases of sickness, in which they deem it their duty to employ allœopathic means, and this too before any attempt whatever is made to treat them Homœopathically?

What then is the position of those in relation to Homœopathy who administer a drug hastily selected and inappropriate and fail in obtaining the curative effects, and then at once resort to allœopathy? These surely are not with us. We do not doubt their integrity; but they are not imbued with the spirit of Homœopathy.

Some there are who say they have not time to devote to the careful selection of the appropriate remedies. Then leave the profession. No one is at liberty, morally, to take charge of the sick if he has not the time to attend to them faithfully.

And this is the plea for employing allœopathy, is it? We have long known that the old school practice is well adapted to indolence in the physician. But the Homœopathic practice demands industry—constant labor—real study. Whoever, therefore, embraces Homœopathy, must become, if he is not already, a close student, in the strictest sense.

Now, although Homœopathy will progress and triumph, yet we must contend that it ought not to be retarded in its progressive march by the errors or indolence of its pretended friends.

#### POINTS OF DIFFERENCE BETWEEN ALLŒOPATHY AND HOMŒOPATHIC PRACTICE.

In a practical science like medicine, which is so intimately connected with health, life, and happiness, any deviation from long established rules and practice ought to be the subject of mature consideration, and not to be lightly attempted, or carried into effect without potent reasons. Homœopathy being a very young doctrine in comparison with her older sister, and differing in so many essential points from

Allœopathy, has naturally excited a degree of doubt in the minds of most people; and the public, therefore, have a right to know from the advocates of that system, upon what ground they dissent from practices which have been sanctioned by ages. This very fair question we shall try to answer in a succinct manner, as far as the limited space of a pamphlet and the press of other matters will allow, reserving a full and detailed explanation for a future special publication on the subject.

In the preceding pages the following points of difference have already been mentioned:—

1. Homœopathy is founded upon a law of nature, '*similia similibus curantur*,' the influence of which pervades the whole doctrine, and, being a sure guide in all cases of disease, insures a high degree of unity of opinion and practice amongst its followers.—Allœopathy has no such supreme law, and therefore does not offer the same degree of harmony of opinion and practice amongst its professors.

2. Homœopathy follows certain and fixed rules for the investigation of the effect of medicines on the human frame, and thereby arrives at a clear and distinct knowledge of such effects.—Allœopathy is defective in its methods of investigation, and therefore its knowledge of the pure effects of medicines is very limited and imperfect.

3. Homœopathy prescribes the use of only one single medicine at a time; it is therefore enabled to follow the effects of such medicine, whether good or bad, with a great degree of clearness and precision, and thus to arrive at pure observations, and, consequently, at sound experience.—Allœopathy habitually mixes together a number of active medicines, each of which has its own peculiar effects on the frame. The clearness and precision of the treatment is thus materially interfered with, and all endeavors to arrive at clear unmixed observations and sound experience are to a high degree frustrated.

4. Homœopathy prescribes its medicines in reduced doses, which are sufficiently strong beneficially to effect the body in diseases, and not large enough to do harm when improperly selected.—Allœopathy prescribes its medicines in doses more powerful than is requisite, and which, if incorrectly chosen, are apt to injure the patient, as daily experience proves.

5. Homœopathy maintains that every disease is a perfectly individual deviation from health and ought to be treated as such.—Allœopathy too frequently is influenced in the

treatment of diseases by the mere name of the disorder, and thus frequently treats in the same manner diseases which are essentially different.

6. Homœopathy attaches no practical importance to the investigation of the proximate cause of disease; the latter being utterly impenetrable to human understanding, the result of such investigation can never amount to more than conjecture: but it makes that which may be known, namely, the predisposing and exciting causes, and the totality of the symptoms in their most minute manifestation and mutual relation, its principal criterion for the mode of treatment.—Allœopathy considers the investigation of the proximate cause of disease as necessary for a scientific treatment, and thus leads to a proverbial divergency of opinion among its followers on the nature of diseases, and their appropriate treatment.

7. Homœopathy does not recognise the existence of merely local diseases, but maintains, that every disease, with perhaps a few trifling exceptions, is an affection of the whole organism; that, therefore, in order to arrive at a radical cure, diseases ought to be treated by remedial agents acting on the whole frame, and not by merely local means.—Allœopathy does recognise merely local diseases, and treating them, in consequence of this, frequently by exclusively local means, rarely arrives at a radical cure in such cases. This point shall be more fully explained in one of the following paragraphs.

8. Hahnemann's views differ essentially from those of the old school, with regard to the nature and treatment of chronic disorders. Daily experience shows, that Homœopathy cures a great number of such disorders radically, and daily experience shows that the effect of Allœopathy in similar cases scarcely ever amount to more than palliation, or transformation of one disorder into another; and that it rarely arrives at a radical cure, unless in cases where it acts unconsciously upon the homœopathic law. We may here remark, that the success in chronic diseases ought to be considered the principal criterion of the value of any system of practical medicine. For in these disorders the efforts of Nature alone are generally ineffectual, and the best she can accomplish by herself is occasionally to change one form of disorder to another. She thus sometimes seems to effect a cure by her own efforts, when she only changes its mode of manifestation, for in-

stance, at the different periods of evolution, where chronic disorders sometimes disappear, without being cured, only to re-appear sooner or later in the same or another, form. In this class of disorders, therefore medicine as an art ought to show its value, and its power of so directing, by remedial measures, the constant curative efforts of Nature, as to lead to the establishment of the healthy functions of all the organs. In acute diseases on the contrary, the proceedings of Nature alone are generally so instinctively right and effectual, that unless the constitution is naturally very unhealthy, or previously exhausted, or unless Nature is thrown off her right track by violent treatment, she generally proceeds through the different stages of the disease to a successful termination within a certain space of time. The experience of all ages and countries has shown, that, to say the least, an equal number of individuals recover from any kind of acute diseases, whether they are left to Nature alone or are put under the influence of medical treatment. The intrinsic merit of medicine (at least in its ordinary form) in the treatment of acute disorders is, therefore, strictly speaking, very limited and in many cases exceedingly doubtful; and when we take into consideration the unnecessarily violent measures so generally adopted in such disorders, we agree with Pereira, who says, 'We can hardly refuse our assent to the observation of the late Sir Gilbert Blane, that in many cases patients get well in spite of the means employed, and sometimes when the practitioner fancies he has made a great cure, we may fairly assume the patient to have made a happy escape.'

9. Homœopathy is, in the strictest philosophical sense, a *system* of practical medicine. It has one supreme principle from which all the different parts of the doctrine start as necessary consequences; these parts themselves are again in necessary relation to, and penetrate and vivify each other. This harmonious *ensemble* preserves the name of a system.—Allœopathy does not satisfy the logical postulates of a system.

Besides the points of difference mentioned, there are others on which Homœopathy is compelled to dissent from the allœopathic school; and, as they are directly connected with the every-day's practice of medicine itself, it is the bounden duty of its followers to lay their reasons of such dissent openly before the public.—*Concise View, &c.*



### HOMŒOPATHY THE ONLY TRUE PRINCIPLE IN THERAPEUTICS.

As we have shown, all the so-called principles in medicine (Therapeutics) heretofore relied upon, have been derived from a knowledge of drugs experimentally used;—that the healing art, with no other basis, is mere empiricism,—*legitimate quackery*;—that, in the very nature of things, knowledge thus obtained, could not reduce the art to a science, nor ever become satisfactory to scientific minds;—that the practice has made no advancement as an art, but, on the contrary, has retrograded; and that its success—its results, are not satisfactory.

All this, and more, is true, as we could distinctly make appear in the published avowals of numerous members of high standing and authority in the profession. The profession, as such, is, in fact, at this moment, confessedly without established principles. Without chart, compass, or star, to guide it, it is still at sea, after a voyage of 2500 years,—without sight of land, and with no prospect of making a safe and desired haven. In the utter desolation that surrounds them, and the speedy shipwreck of their craft, which has become inevitable, a faint cry from among the voyagers of 'Land, ho!' is heard,—it is but the rising cloud of thick darkness which is soon to overshadow them!

In the despair which has seized upon them, they dream and talk of new discoveries, to be made by a series of new experiments, but the *matron* so soon to bring forth the long looked-for 'Hercules,' is pregnant *only with their hopes*;—the fancied conception of the 'ancient mother,'—now struggling in death, amid the execrations of her victims, and to the great joy and relief of mankind, is a *false one*.

She is incapable of conceiving, or of giving birth to a legitimate son of Æsculapius. No legacy of value will she leave to coming generations. 'How can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit? Do men gather figs of thistles, or grapes of thorns?'

The fact is, that experimenting in therapeutics never can establish the art on a sure and permanent basis, and ensure for it safety, certainty, and success. It must have some law, some fundamental principle, which must, in the very nature of things exist—to distinguish and perfect it.

The collateral branches of medicine have such laws and principles, and are making constant and rapid improvement—without them therapeutics never can.

In a paper, 'on the recent progress and future prospects of practical medicine, by Eli-sha Bartlett, M. D., Professor of Medicine in the University of Maryland,' the professor says:—

'The history of practical medicine,\* especially, during the last twenty-five years, and a right appreciation of its character, and the conditions and means of its progress, furnish us with very positive assurance that many of its most important laws will gradually, but steadily and certainly, be carried forwards to their entire and final establishment. The foundations of many of these laws,—and of those, too, most difficult of determination,—have been already broadly and securely laid; and although many years must elapse, amidst earnest, unremitting, and conscientious toil, before these laws can be *definitively and fully settled*, it is not possible, in the nature of things, that we can be deceived, or disappointed, in this consummation, so devoutly to be wished. The minute and thorough study of diseases, in all their aspects, phases, and relationships, which is now prosecuted, with so much zeal and fidelity, cannot fail of leading to the result of which I have spoken. The great laws of pathology and its relations,—of etiology and therapeutics,—are *sure to be ascertained*.

'After our knowledge of pathology, and our nosological diagnosis growing out of this, have reached their highest attainable point of accuracy and positiveness, there is still left an almost interminable field of investigation, in the study of the relationships between the morbid condition, thus ascertained, and the substances and agencies in nature, which can in any way effect or influence this condition. Let us look, for a single moment, at the extent and the complexity of these relationships. They are almost infinite. Look at any single disease, even of the simplest and best settled character; and let us suppose that all its elements, as far as this is possible, in the nature of things, have been accurately ascertained. Before our therapeutical knowledge of this disease can be said, in literal strictness, to be *complete*, we must know the effects and influences, which *all the substances and agencies in nature are capable of producing upon it*; and we can know this only by direct observation of the effects themselves. We must know how it will be modified by each and all of the different vegetable productions of the earth by each and all of the mineral substances, in their manifold forms of chemical combination; by changes of temperature, and other meteorological condi-

\* Medicine comprehends anatomy, physiology, pathology, surgery, obstetrics, materia medica, therapeutics, chemistry, &c.

Therapeutics is the art of understanding and administering remedies for diseases.

Practical medicine is synonymous with therapeutics.

Etiology—the history and causes of disease.

tions; by electricity; by light; by food; by drink; by exercise; by the state of the mind, and so on. The doctrine, thus stated, sanctions the constant introduction and trial of new remedies; since until any given substance is tried we do not and cannot know what properties of a remedial nature it may be endowed with.

The seat, the character, the regular march, and the tendencies of the disease, having been first ascertained, *the next thing to be done is to find out the best methods of preventing, of modifying, and of curing it.* This is what many of the great pathologists of the present day are actively and zealously engaged in endeavoring to do. This is the great mission which now lies immediately before us; this is to constitute the great work of the next and succeeding generations.

'I should be doing great injustice to my subject, if I did not mention, as prominent amongst the therapeutical improvements of the last quarter of a century, the change which has been gradually taking place, in the use of violent and dangerous remedies. I am inclined to regard this change as one of the greatest blessings which modern medical observation has conferred upon the human race, and it is but fair to admit, that absurd as the *system of Homœopathy* is, and unsupported as its pretensions are, so far as its *peculiar treatment of disease* is concerned; it has, nevertheless, done great good *by its practice*,—its scrupulous adherence to a strict regimen, and its avoidance of all injurious remedies,—in the furtherance of this revolution. "It has been sarcastically said, that there is a wide difference between a good physician and a bad one, but a small difference between a good physician and no physician at all; by which it is meant to insinuate, that the mischievous officiousness of art does commonly counterbalance any benefit derivable from it." (*Sir Gilbert Blane*.) The conviction has been steadily gaining ground, and spreading itself abroad in the medical community, not only that heroic remedies, as they are called, are often productive of great mischief, and should never be lightly or questionably used; but that, in very many cases of disease, all *medicines*, using this word in its common signification, are evils; and that they may be dispensed with, not merely with negative safety, but to the actual benefit of the subjects.

'It is melancholy to think what an enormous aggregate of suffering and calamity has been occasioned by a disregard of the axiom which I have quoted. Our means for the direct removal of disease are limited in extent, but it is not so with our power to augment and to cause it; this is unlimited. Difficult as it may be to cure, it is always easy to poison and to kill. We may well congratulate ourselves and society, that the primary and fundamental truths, of which I have been speaking, are finding their right position, and producing their legitimate results; and that long abused humanity is likely, at no very remote period, to be finally delivered from the abominable atrocities of wholesale and indiscriminate drugging.

## HIGH POTENCIES.

BY F. P. WELLS, M. D.

Messrs. Editors,—

It was well said, of late, that 'scepticism is more a matter of feeling than of judgment.' In nothing is this more true than in the scepticism sometimes cherished and expressed in regard to the increased power to cure disease which we have found in the higher dynamizations of our remedies. I hear, and sometimes too from those who claim to be *Homœopathic physicians*, such declarations as 'I do not believe in them at all,' 'I have no confidence in them whatever,' &c. But whence have they this want of confidence? From the failure of these dynamizations to cure the sick in their practice, when they have been selected with careful observance of the directions in the Organon, and proper discrimination of differences and analogies in the effects of drugs? Has their want of confidence such an origin? Not at all. 'I have never tried them,' has been the almost invariable reply to the above question, from physicians, and 'I have never seen them tried,' from the laity. Is scepticism, in such cases a matter of judgment? Sirs, it is neither a matter of conscience or intellect. I confess, to my mind it has more the air of impudence than of either. When cases of both acute and chronic disease, which have not only resisted the appliances of the old school, but the ordinary means of the new, have been promptly and permanently cured by these dynamizations, and such cases have been reported in no small numbers, and met in practice in far greater, those who have cured and reported these cases are met with the above cool declaration of want of confidence! Is it not impudent? Look at the cases reported by Gross, Stapf, Boenning, Lausen, Tietz, and others. Have such cases ever been realized from the use of other means? Have these sceptics had greater success in the use of the means in which they have confidence? If so, is it too much to ask of them to report that success, with the same clearness and frankness which characterize the individuals named, that the profession and the world may come to a knowledge of the best means, and be made partakers of its benefits. Is this too much? The best means of curing the sick is what is wanted. It is confidently believed by those who have tried the high potencies that they are in the highest rank of the best means. The success which follow-

ed their use has produced this conviction, and when this success is reported and this conviction declared, both are met with—what?—calm attention and investigation? Is not the matter of sufficient importance to warrant an expectation of these? But no, sirs; "I have no confidence!" Is it not cool? Isn't it an easy way to dispose of important matters? But in what is the want of confidence? In the *men* who have thus cured and published for the benefit of the profession, and of the world? No. But in the *means* by which they cured, and which these cured, and which these skeptics have never tried. The first would be too barefaced; the latter has a better seeming, but the impudence, though covered, is scarcely less offensive.

I will add a single case which occurred in my own practice, one of many which have given me a deep sense of the value of high potencies as remedial means. I propose hereafter to follow it with others as time and occasion may allow. The lady of a well known gentleman of business of your city, a resident in this, had been troubled three years with ulcers, scabs, and fissures in the right nostril, particularly at the angles. When these first appeared she resided in Boston, and there employed the best skill of the old school without the slightest effect to heal the sores. The trial was found to be a fruitless one, and was given up. She then applied to one of our most intelligent Homœopaths, who treated her with the ordinary attenuations, both high and low, with no better success. After her husband removed to this city, my attention was called to the case, and I found the nose red and somewhat swollen at its extremity, and the right nostril half filled with dry, hard, ragged, adherent scabs, of a light straw color: deep cracks at both angles of the nostril, excruciating pain, especially when touched. The patient had had repeated attacks of erysipelas on the face and scalp, with this exception her health was good. She had not taken medicine the last six months. I gave *Sulph. Calc. Carb. Nit. Ac. Ant. crud. graph. Phos. Sepia.*, at proper intervals and in attenuations high and low, with no better result than before. I gave up the case as incurable.

Now a few scabs and cracks, and some slight pains in the nose may be regarded as a trifle; but when they have been endured for two or three years, they may be found rather inconvenient, and, as in the present instance, the patient will naturally desire to be relieved

of them. About six months from the time I abandoned the case, I received the third part of the first volume of Stapf's *Neues Archiv*, containing Dr. Gross's "*Latest experience in Homœopathic practice*," i. e. with the highest dynamizations. He declared he cured promptly and permanently cases which were either only palliated by the ordinary attenuations, or wholly unaffected by them. Why then might not the right remedy, thus attenuated, cure the case I had abandoned? I saw the patient, and stated the success which had followed the use of these attenuations, and proposed another trial and with the high potencies, the nature of which was explained to her. As she had not attained that exalted degree of wisdom which compels some to doubt truth and withhold "confidence" till every body else has found it out, she assented at once to the trial.

It will be remembered, she had already taken several medicines. The second was substituted for the first, not because there had been a change of symptoms calling for a change of remedy, but because the first had produced absolutely *no change*; and the second gave place to the third for the same reason, and no one of them affected the case in the slightest degree. It was neither better nor worse. I had no doubt in the beginning that *sulphur* was the remedy, and, in that belief, I gave it in the 30th and 3d attenuations, dry and dissolved; I repeated at short intervals, and waited weeks for a reaction I never saw, and then I gave grain doses of the 3d trituration 5-100: but all with no perceptible effect.

After the lapse of six months, I examined the case, and sulphur still appearing to be indicated, as before, I gave one globule of the 1530th attenuation, and now, for the first time, there was a sensible effect from the dose. It grew worse through the next five days, after which it began to improve and continued to grow better till about the expiration of about six weeks, when it came to a pause. The dose was repeated, i. e. one globule of the 1530th. The same aggravation, with subsequent amendment, followed as before. But the healing made little if any progress beyond that which resulted from the first dose. This repetition was a mistake in practice which I had not then learned. When improvement ceased after the second dose, she got *sepia*, one globule 1530th, which completed the cure.

Brooklyn, N. Y., Sept. 10th, 1846.



## LAWS OF HEALTH—DISEASE.

The comparatively few individuals who possess robust constitutions, and enjoy uninterrupted health, is a matter of deep interest, and worthy the profound investigation of the physician.

The vast multitude of chronic affections that afflict mankind must originate in causes as yet but little understood, and that heretofore have not been subject to any known laws or means of cure.

That man was constituted for the enjoyment of health, is sufficiently evident, and that, but for the existence, in his system, of some latent, morbid miasm, predisposing it to the influence of ordinary disturbing, or exciting causes of disease, the vital power would readily resist their influence, and he would rarely fall a prey to their attacks.

The ordinary exciting causes of disturbance and disease, are insufficient and inadequate to account for all the well marked differences in constitutions, morbid susceptibilities, and peculiar affections that distinguish individuals.

We notice certain individuals subject to peculiar affections.—On the existence of one class of exciting causes, they suffer in one way, and as these vary, there is a corresponding variance of their troubles. The slightest change in the atmosphere is the signal for the recurrence of some singular disorder, and the slightest neglect or departure from accustomed regimen, is followed by a never varying '*punishment*;' while others, exposed to the same influences, suffer in a far *different manner*, or are not at all disturbed by them.

Some, with apparent impunity, are exposed to all the vicissitudes of a varying atmosphere, brave all sorts of exposure, adopt any and every kind of regimen, indulge their appetites in every possible manner as to variety, quality, and quantity. We say, with *apparent* impunity, for that a long series of exposures, and a continued course of indulgence will gradually weaken the vital action; reduce its power to keep up the healthy tone of the system; and prematurely bring on the period of decay and death, is as certain as that effects follow causes.

There are others again, who, with all possible care and attention to a judicious system of diet, avoiding every species of exposure, and who guard themselves with the utmost care against the changes of weather, and of the seasons; who, in short, with the most scrupulous and persevering attention to every condi-

tion that should secure to themselves health and enjoyment, yet are never able to realize more than a trifling palliation of their sufferings. Do what they may, it is all in vain;—they are the same miserable sufferers—the prey of excited imaginations, desponding passions, and false hopes.

In vain they abridge their ordinary comforts and pleasures; resort to irksome and painful expedients; or fly from one experiment to another. Abandoned by their physicians, and given over to the refuges of quackery, they resort to one nostrum after another. Disappointed in the last '*remedy*,' which was '*sure* to cure,' they try another which is '*certain*' to do so, till, at last, they abandon all effort in despair, and submit to suffer what they have no hope of avoiding.

These affections must depend upon some cause of a specific and deep-seated character. In certain persons it has a tendency to affect particular organs, or tissues, constituting what is understood by *predisposition*. Thus some are predisposed to consumption; others, to scrofulous affections, rheumatism, dropsy, &c.; and when this predisposition exists the slightest exciting cause may serve to develop it. When this cause (or latent miasm) becomes strongly determined to, or fasten upon any organ, or set of organs, or tissues, we have a condition, known by name, as a particular disease, as phthisis, dyspepsia, and hæmorrhoids, &c.

Whatever condition may chance to exist, depends upon a variety of circumstances,—while the cause remains the same. To treat any existing condition as though it constituted the disease, while the cause remains in the system, must necessarily be unphilosophical, unscientific, and unsuccessful.

True art consists in the application of remedies, which, while they lessen morbid local actions, and allay irritable conditions, at the same time destroy, antidote, or remove from the system the *cause*, whatever its character may be.

## REPORTS OF CASES.

To the Homœopathic physician, reported cases can only be useful to accumulate evidence of the truth of the law of cure; the efficacy of attenuated drugs in small doses to cure disease; to furnish the student in homœopathy, with some slight information of conditions which indicate a particular drug; and if drawn up in a proper manner, furnish the mode of selecting the drug. We do not perceive any

other use to which reported cases can be employed by practitioners of our school. And with these objects in view, and these alone, we shall endeavor to furnish an ample supply. We do hope that no one will use reported cases of treatment as models of practice in other cases. This is one of the evils of the old school, and we have reason to believe that homœopathy is in some danger from this same source. We believe that Hahnemann had this view of the matter. He objected to the publication of cases, on account of the liability to employ them as models in other cases. Homœopathy requires that each case of sickness should be studied by itself, unconnected, and uninfluenced by any other case that may have had some, or many points of resemblance.

We do not know that Hahnemann ever caused to be published more than two cases, and the sole object was to illustrate the manner of selecting the remedy. They are as follows:

S—, a washerwoman, aged about forty, of a healthy constitution, had already been three weeks unable to work when she applied for medical assistance.

The symptoms were as follows: 1st, Lancinating pains in the pit of the stomach, proceeding from the left side after moving, or when she rose, especially when she made a false step.

2d, When lying she experienced no pain, neither in the side nor in the pit of the stomach.

3d, She could not sleep until three o'clock in the morning.

4th, She ate with pleasure, but after partaking of food, suffered from sickness.

5th, Rising of clear water, which seemed to flow into the mouth.

6th, After eating, efforts to vomit, but without result.

7th, Disposition violent, choleric; copious perspiration covered the body during the violent pains. Fifteen days before, she had menstruated naturally.

Otherwise healthy.

As regards symptom 1, belladonna and china occasion lancinating pain in the pit of the stomach, but neither excite them when the individual is only in motion, as in this case. Pulsatilla also produces them on making a false step, but rarely; and it causes neither the same gastric derangement indicated by the symptoms 4, 5, and 6, nor the same moral dispositions.

Bryonia alone occasions pains during movement, especially lancinating. It also produces prickings under the sternum when the arm is raised; and also the other sensations on making a false step.

Symptom 3 is furnished by several medicines and also by bryonia.

Symptom 4, sickness after eating belongs to several remedies, ignatia, nux v., mercurius, ferrum, belladonna, pulsatilla, cantharides, but not constantly, and rarely accompanied with relish for food, as in the case from bryonia. With regard to symptom 5, several medicines produce rising of clear water, also bryonia; but they do not occasion the other symptoms constituting the disease. Bryonia is preferable to all in this respect.

Efforts to vomit after eating (symptom 6) are produced by few remedies; none occasions them more frequently, or so well marked, as bryonia.

Moral symptoms are one of the principal indications in disease, and as under this head bryonia produces phenomena analogous to that presented by the patient, together with the preceding symptoms, it was preferred to any other homœopathic remedy. A drop of the mother tincture of bryonia was given; in forty-eight hours the woman was cured, and returned to her work.

A pale sickly man, aged forty-two, who had long been engaged in sedentary occupations, after being five days ill applied for medical assistance.

1st, On the first evening, without any assignable cause, he had sickness, vertigo, swimming of the head, and frequent efforts to vomit. 2d, The following night, towards two o'clock, vomiting of sour matter. 3d, The following nights, violent efforts to vomit. 4th, The day of the visit, risings of a foetid, disagreeable taste. 5th, Sensation as if some indigestible substance lay on the stomach. 6th, Feeling of uneasiness in the head, attended with sensation of emptiness. 7th, The least noise annoyed him. 8th, Disposition mild and patient.

It may be remarked:—

1st, That some medicines occasion vertigo with sickness, for example pulsatilla, which causes also vertigo in the evening; a character of only a few substances.

2d, That stramonium and nux v. excite vomiting of a sour matter, and phlegm of an acid smell, but not during the night. Valerian and cocculus cause vomiting, but not of acid



matters. Ferrum alone produces vomiting of sour matters and at night, but not the other symptoms which must be taken into consideration. Pulsatilla not only excites vomiting of sour matter in the evening and during the night, but also the other symptoms presented by the patient.

3d, The efforts to vomit during the night are proper to this remedy.

4th, The sour, putrid, foetid risings also belong to it.

5th, Many medicines occasion a sensation as if indigestible food were in the stomach, but none in so constant a manner as pulsatilla.

6th, This symptom is produced by pulsatilla, also by ignatia, but this latter has not the other symptoms.

7th, Pulsatilla occasions something similar to symptom 7, although the difficulty of supporting the least noise is proper also to ignatia and nux v.; these substances produce it in a minor degree, and do not give rise to the other symptoms.

8th, Pulsatilla corresponds to the disposition.

Pulsatilla 12, one drop was given; by next day the patient was quite well, and when observed, eight days after, continued to remain so.

### EXTRACT.

FROM A LETTER OF HAHNEMANN TO DR. STAFF.

*Leipzig, Dec. 17th, 1846*

DEAREST FRIEND.

I thank you for the symptoms you sent me, many of them are very important. You must always strive to discover the exact expression for your sensations, and the changes in your sensations, as well as the conditions under which they are excited. My present scholars have a lighter task in this respect. Whenever they present me with such a list, I go through the symptoms along with them, and question them right and left, so as to complete, from their recollection, whatever requires to be more explicit, such as the time, conditions, &c., in which the changes were prescribed. But all this you must do for yourself; you must go through the written description in order to find what has yet to be reported. In this respect, yours is a harder task. From this strictness of mine for the promotion of the truth, you will perceive that your plan, although very well meant, is quite impracticable:

[An invitation to Physicians to assist in the proving of medicines.]

Which of your every-day colleagues would undertake such laborious experiments? when he can tap upon his well filled receipt book and say, 'Thou art my comfort; never can I be in doubt what to prescribe when I have thee at hand. It may go with my patients as it likes; I am quite safe.

These receipts of the learned masters, as long as I prescribe them, no person can find fault with me.'

It would be in vain to elevate the views of such people. Even had we an eternity to expend upon them, they never would resolve on such careful experimentalism, since the common physician feels himself so comfortable without observing, in the easy following of others, in quoting 'authority' for every thing, in speculating and assuming. Ah, no, dismiss all such hopes. Such resolutions are not to be expected from such people. And what would the accomplishment of their attempt be, suppose they made an attempt out of curiosity. Deceptions, imaginative stuff, or positive falsehoods, with their irregular mode of life, their volatility and their deficiency in the spirit of observation and integrity: may God keep the pure doctrine from such dross.

No, it is only the young whose heads are not yet deluged to overflowing with a flood of every-day dogmas, and in whose arteries there runs not yet the stream of medical prejudice; it is only such young and candid natures, on whom truth and philanthropy have got a hold, who are open to our simple doctrine of medicine, it is only those who, impelled by their own natural impulse (as I gladly observe in my pupils) to restore to the light of day by their devotion to the truth, those treasures of medicinal action; inestimable treasures which have been from of old allowed to lie unknown, in obscurity of self complacent, false-reasoning ingenuity; and I think some of them have made considerable progress in the practice of observation, and so will the good spread, but only where it finds suitable ground and soil.

### COUP DE SOLEIL:

OR, A STROKE OF THE SUN.

We intended sooner to have alluded to the great number of deaths in this city, from the excessive heat of the sun. These cases rarely fall into the hands of Homœopathic physicians, (their numbers, compared to others, being so limited,) but when they do, they are, so far as

we are aware, generally saved—especially if seen at once. In the ordinary mode of treatment, they are generally lost. We give a case treated by Dr. Barlow:—

C. F., April 23d, fell senseless, at 12 o'clock noon (on one of the hottest days of the season). I saw him in an half an hour afterward. He lay like one dead; pulseless; was cold from head to foot; bathed in cold perspiration; respiration so feeble that it was difficult to determine whether he breathed at all; dilated pupils.

I put one drop camph. 3d, in a tumbler of water, of which I gave him a teaspoonful. In twenty minutes I gave acon. 3d. three pellets, and covered him with flannels. The aconite was repeated once an hour till 5 o'clock, when he had slight convulsions. I then gave bell. 5th. 3 pellets. In half an hour he began to show signs of consciousness, and continued gradually to improve. At 8 o'clock he was able to speak; at 9, was able to sit up; slept well through the night; got up well in the morning, and walked home—distant some two miles.

He continued well without further medication.

And the following by ourselves:—

The patient had been for two hours or more in a raging delirium;—presenting all the symptoms of complete phrenitis. He was a carpenter, and had been exposed to the intense heat of one of the hottest days in August. Moreover, strong brandy had been poured down his throat by officious and ignorant people. His face was flushed; his eyes protruded, red, and glaring; was foaming at the mouth, and making attempts to spit, bite, and strike. The efforts of as many men as could lay hold of him, were impotent to restrain his ungovernable fury, and muscular exertions. We managed to put three pellets of belladonna 18th, upon his tongue,—the highest att. we happened to have in our case. In a few minutes, not more than three, he became quiet and rational, and desired the men to let go of him; he got up, kissed his wife and children, and appeared like one awakened from a dream. He slept quietly that night, was about the following day, and required no further treatment.

#### CROUP—WATER CURE.

We have received a copy of a small work, on the treatment of croup by cold water, by Henry Wigand M. D. The author testifies to the fact, that croup, in its worst and most threat-

ening form, is readily cured by the use of water. We are not disposed to question the efficacy and success of this mode of treatment; it does undoubtedly arrest the progress and development of the disease. The treatment is, however, troublesome and painful; yet we regard it incomparably better than the old mode, the adoption of which, if ever of use, is invariably so at the expense of the constitution and future health of the patient.

It is true that in our practice, we have the means of arresting the disease, and 'restoring health, in a prompt, mild, and permanent manner,' in ordinary cases; that cases may occur, requiring or rendering the application of water desirable, we think possible, and should without hesitation resort to it, were we unable to procure or determine the appropriate homœopathic remedy; at the same time we think such cases rare. We have never met with one ourselves. The author in conclusion, remarks:

'I do not blame physicians that they have administered calomel in large doses, in order to save a beloved child, even if its health became ruined forever; for they had no other remedy;—Calomel was their only and last resort.

But now the case is altered. We have another remedy, a specific for croup—and a more sure, a more harmless remedy than calomel, which leaves no after pains, and by which the life of children, already standing on the border of the grave, can be saved.

Every physician, therefore, owes it to his conscience and humanity, to consider whether he will continue in future to *poison* his croup patients by calomel, or will *cure* them by the application of cold water.'

We strongly recommend the work, and the treatment, to those who will not, or have not the means to adopt homœopathy.

The book is published by Otis Clapp, Boston—Radde, 322 Broadway N. Y., and C. L. Rademacher, Phila.

#### HOMŒOPATHY DISAPPROVES OF THE WHOLE DERIVATIVE METHOD.

This method consists in the production of an artificial or secondary disease, in order to relieve another or primary one, (antagonism counter-irritation,) and under this head are included such remedial measures as blisters, issues, moxas, seton, actual cautery, ointments containing tartar emetic, &c. The reasons

for which Homœopathy disapproves of them are much the same as those brought forward against bleeding, namely,

1. Because they are not necessary; for Homœopathy attains all the objects for which they are intended in a milder and more durable manner by properly chosen specific remedies.

2. Because they generally put the patient to great pain and torture, and thus often counteract the beneficial effects which they may produce in unimportant cases of acute disease.

3. Because they are frequently unsafe.—Epispastics, for instance, sometimes produce painful and dangerous constitutional symptoms, or extensive local inflammation, or even mortification. Pereira, speaking of the effects of blisters, says,—“Ulceration and gangrene are not uncommon; the latter effect is occasionally observed after exanthematous diseases, especially measles. I have seen death resulting therefrom in two instances.”

4. Because their effect is very uncertain, and in most cases only palliative.—They scarcely ever lead to a radical cure, but render, through their locally weakening effect, (which is nearly as great as that of leeching,) the respective organ extremely liable to a return of the same symptoms upon slight causes. This result we observe, for instance, in both acute and chronic cases of neuralgia, affections of the head, eyes, throat, windpipe, chest, rheumatism, spine complaint, &c.; and if one considers how rarely these means produce even a palliative effect in proportion to the frequency of their application, it would be surprising, that they are so constantly and extensively resorted to by reflecting medical practitioners, if the absence of better means did not render their avoidance very difficult.

5. Because they are disadvantageous with regard to the disease itself and frequently decidedly injurious. In their weakening effects these remedies can best be compared with bleeding, and particularly with local depletion. The only kind of cases in which, in want of better means, they would be to a certain degree justifiable, is that of unimportant, yet very painful acute disorders, such as tooth-ache or ear-ache, when vital power is not reduced, and the relief produced by them would be a sufficient compensation, if, after all, their beneficial effects even in these disorders were not exceedingly precarious and uncertain. But we maintain, that in all acute cases of any importance, and in all chronic cases without exception, these measures are disadvantageous

and objectionable, because they have no power, direct or indirect, of reaching the morbid cause of the disorder, and also on account of their general and local weakening effects. They drain and debilitate the whole frame, and still further exhaust it when all its vital energies are required to overcome the disorder thoroughly; and through their locally weakening effect they are particularly injurious to the organ to which they are applied, by impeding its radical cure and imparting to the acute disorder a strong tendency to assume a chronic character. We shall support our assertions by a few instances out of many. How often do we see in catarrhal affections, for which blistering and other counter irritants are almost invariably resorted to, the respiratory organs so much weakened by them, that the traces of the disorder do not radically disappear or that the acute affection takes a decidedly chronic character, or that even consumption of the larynx, windpipe or lungs, is the final consequence? In cases of acute inflammation of the knee or hip-joint, arising from outward injury or from constitutional causes, in which, besides leeching, blistering, and other derivative means are very generally applied, a radical cure is materially impeded by these local weakening measures, and chronic pain, swelling, hardness, stiffness, and want of muscular power often remain, and even shortening of the sinews, distortion, suppuration, dislocation, &c., are the not unfrequent consequences of the vital power of the organ thus treated being unduly reduced.

The temporary relief often afforded by the derivative method in acute diseases, might to a certain degree explain the frequency of its application in those disorders; but it would be difficult to understand that in chronic cases, where even such relief is exceedingly precarious and uncertain, these measures should be so constantly resorted to, if it was not an indisputable fact, that the better resources of allopathy for the cure of that class of diseases are exceedingly limited. Or else how could the practitioner so constantly have recourse to blisters, moxas, setons, cauteries, issues, &c., for chronic head-ache, chronic ophthalmia, chronic catarrh, consumption of the organs of respiration, liver complaint, affections of the heart, spine complaint, rheumatic disorders, hip-complaint, white swelling, paralytic affections, &c. Not only are the palliative effects of derivative measures in all these complaints exceedingly rare and precarious, but they are



also decidedly injurious; and they not only never reach the morbid constitutional cause, and therefore cannot lead to a cure; but they also confirm the complaint, render it more obstinate, frequently incurable, and not rarely hasten its fatal issue. C. V. &c.

#### CHRONIC DIARRHŒA.

Some 8 months ago, we treated a case of chronic diarrhœa of some years continuance. For three months, the patient had suffered greatly and uninterruptedly.

The discharges were frequent, painful, and debilitating; they occurred mostly at night.

The patient, a gentleman of apparently, a robust constitution, and of active habits. A single dose of *nux vom.* 30, followed by one dose of sulphur 30, cured it at once, and there has since been no return of it.

'POSTAGE PAID.'—We are constantly in the receipt of letters and communications, *postage unpaid*. The price of the Journal is too low to make a discount of five or ten per cent desirable to its patrons, or agreeable to us.

In single sums, the amount is trifling; but aggregated, it becomes a serious tax. We hope our friends will regard this, and in paying postage, consider they are doing so much for the cause, and relieving us of some share of the burden.

#### CHEAP CASH PRINTING,

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The above Establishment being conducted upon entirely different principles from many others, furnishes the public with good opportunity of having work done on correct principles—without requiring exorbitant profits to feed hungry and numerous mortgages, &c. A steady business—small profits—and cash customers—are the peculiarities the Proprietor intends distinguishing his Office—and orders will continue to be attended to with the usual punctuality.

#### HOMŒOPATHIC PHARMACY.

Smith's Homœopathic Pharmacy, is removed to No. 488 Broadway, corner of Broome street. John T. S. Smith has a large assortment of Homœopathic Medicines, in tinctures, triturations, dilutions and globules; Arnica flowers; Sugar of Milk, Pure Alcohol, Distilled Water, Pellets, &c., &c. Physician's, Pocket and Family Cases of Medicine on hand, and prepared to order Homœopathic Plasters, a substitute for ordinary Court and Adhesive Plaster, and an excellent application for Corns.

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Apollo Rooms, 410 Broadway. Open daily, [Sunday excepted,] from 3 to 4.

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#### RESIDENCES OF THE PHYSICIANS.

Dr. Kirby, 311 Broadway.  
" Barlow, 541 Bowery.  
" Cook, 502 Broadway.  
" Snow, 736 do.  
" Quin, 477 do.  
" Bowers, 113 Bleecker street.  
" Joslin, 9 Amity street.  
" Bayard, 691 Broadway.

**GENERAL AGENCY** of the Central Homœopathic Pharmacy at Leipsic for the United States, No. 323 Broadway. Wm. Radde respectfully informs Hom. Physicians and the friends of the System, that he is the sole Agent for the Leipsic Central Homœopathic Pharmacy, and that he has always on hand a good assortment of the best Homœopathic Tinctures and Medicines in their different Triturations and Dilutions: also Physician's, Pocket and Family Medicine Cases, containing from 27 to 300 vials. Pure Spirits of Wine. Fine Vials, different sizes, and made of white glass. Corks. Diet Papers. Labels. Homœopathic Chocolate Arnica Plaster, an excellent application for Corns. Also an assortment of Hom. Books, in English, German, and French; as Jahr's Manual of Hom. Practice, in 2 vols., By A. Gerard Hull, M. D. Hahnemann's Chronic Diseases, in 5 vols., by Ch. J. Hempel, M. D. Hahnemann's Materia Medica, 2 vols., by Ch. J. Hempel, &c.

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Medicine Chests of different sizes for Physicians, with Tinctures and Triturations, Dilutions, or medicated Pellets. Also constantly on hand, Family Medicine Chests to suit, Hering's Domestic Physician; Laurie's Homœopathic Domestic Medicine; Epps' Domestic Homœopathy; Newman's Homœopathic Family Assistant; and the Family Guide. Also Refined Sugar of Milk, Alcohol, Vials of different sizes, Corks, Labels, etc. etc.